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ABSTRACT

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Multidimensional Adolescent Self-concepts: Their Relationship to Age; Sex and Academic Measures

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Multidimensional Adolescent Self-concepts: Their Relationship to Age, Sex and Academic Measures ABSTRACT

The Self Description Questionnaire II (SDQ II) was administered to 901 students (11 to 18 years old) in grades ? through 12 who attended one public coeducational high school. The 11 factors the SDO II was designed to measure were clearly identified in a conventional/exploratory factor analysis and in a confirmatory factor analysis using LISREL. Each scale was reliable (median alpha = .86), and correlations among the factors were small (median r = .17). All of the SDO II scales were significantly correlated with sex and/or age; though the effect of sex and age were independent of each other and the relationships were small, The effect of sex varied with the particular scale; girls being higher on some; lower on others; and not differing from boys on a third group and on the sum of all the SDG II scales. This total score, and most of the separate scales had a quadratic age effect where solf-concepts started out high; reached their lumest level in year 9; and then improved. At every grade level academic criterion measures were significantly correlated with every academic scale; but not with the numacademic scales: Verbal criteria were more highly correlated with Verbal self-concept; while math criteria were more highly correlated with Math self-concept. These findings not only demonstrate the multidimensionality of self-Concept; but also show that its relationship to other constructs cannot be adequately understood if this multidimensionality is ignored. The findings have important implications for the Study of addlescent self-concept; and also support the construct validity of the SDO II and the Shavelson model upon which it is based.



designed to measure three areas of academic self-concept and four areas of nonacademic self-concept. These seven factors have been identified in numerous conventional (exploratory) factor analyses (e.g., Marsh, Relich & Smith, 1983; Marsh, Barnes, Cairns & Tidman; Note 1) and confirmatory factor analyses (Marsh & Hocevar; Note 2; Marsh & Shavelson; Note 4). Research based upon the SDQ also provides evidence for the construct validity of self-concept in that different areas of self-concept are substantially correlated with inferred self-concepts in these same areas as inferred from ratings by primary school teachers (Marsh, Parker & Smith, 1982) and with academic ability measures (Marsh, Parker & Smith, 1982; Marsh, Relich & Smith; 1983; Marsh, Smith; Butler & Barnes; 1983). The 13 factors which the SDQ III is designed to measured have also been identified in both conventional and confirmatory factor analyses (Marsh & O'Niell; in press):

Age Effects in Self-concept:

Wylie (1979) summarized research conducted prior to 1977 and concluded that there was no convincing evidence for any age effect in overall self-concept — either positive or negative — in the age range & to 50. She found virtually no age effects in research based upon better-known instruments and results based upon idiosyncratic instruments were divided approximately equally among those showing positive, negative, and no effects. She argued that findings based upon separate components of self-concept were too diverse and too infrequent to warrant any generalizations. Dusek & Flaherty (1981), in a technically sophisticated design, also failed to show systematic age effects in their longitudinal study of adolescent self-concept:

Eshel & Klien (1981) found a sharp decline in general selfconcept; in a cross-sectional study of self-concepts in grades 1 - 4.

However, nearly all of the decline occurred between grades 2 and 3,

which suggests the possibility of a lack of equivalence in their age
samples. Marsh, et al. (Note 1) found a strikingly linear, decline in
self-concept in grades 2 - 5 with nearly all of the SDO scales.

However, one scale, Relations With Parents, which was the most
positive scale in grade 2; showed no decline across the grade levels.

Marsh proposed a social comparison process whereby the added
experience and reality testing which is gained by attending school
causes the high reported self-concepts of very young children (perhaps
unrealistically high when the average response is nearly 4.5 on a
five-point response scale) to drop, but has no effect on the Parents



Multidimensional Adolescent Self-concepts: Their Relationship to Age; Sex and Academic Measures

Self-concept is a hypothetical construct whose usefulness must be demonstrated by investigations of its construct validity. Marx & Winne (1978; Winne; Marx & Taylor; 1977) argue that the demonstration of consistent, distinct, and theoretically defensible components of self-concert is prerequisite to the study of how self-concept is related to other constructs. Systematic reviews of self-concept research (e.g., Burns, 1979; Shavelson, Hubbard & Stanton, 1976; Welles & Marwell, 1976; Wylle, 1974; 1979) emphasize the lack of a theoretical basis and the poor quality of measurement instruments used in most studies. Shavelson et al. (1976) reviewed theoretical and empirical research in this field, and used the review as the basis of a self-concept model which incorporates aspects from most theoretical positions. Of particular relevance are Shavelson's assumptions that self-concept is multifaceted, hierarchically arranged; and becomes increasingly multifaceted with age. This theoretical model was the basis for the design of the three SDQ instruments. The Multidimensionality of Self-concept.

The self-concept dimensions proposed by Shavelson et al. (1976); as well as their hypothesised structure, are heuristic and plausible, but they were not empirically demonstrated. Despite the assumption of multidimensionality of self-concept which is explicit in Shavelson's model and implicit in other research, factor analyses of the most community used instruments typically fail to identify the scales which the instrument was designed to measure (see Marsh & S ith; 1982; Shavelson, et al., 1976; Wylle, 1974; 1979). Some rese rchers (e.g., Coopersmith; 1967; Marx & Winne, 1978) argue that self-concept is so heavily dominated by a general factor that distinct areas of selfconcept cannot be differentiated, while others (e.g., Spares & Spares; Note 5; 6) claim that the low correlations between self-concepts in different areas argue against a hierarchical ordering (an issue similar to the debate about the large general factor in general ability research). Not even the multidimensionality of self-concept is universally accepted; let alone the identification of the specific components of self-concept and how they are structured.

The strongest evidence for the multidimensionality of self-concept; and particularly for the facets proposed in the Shavelson model come from work with the SDO (with preadolescent children) and the SDO III (with late adolescents). The SDO was specifically



scale where children have no external basis of comparison. Thus, preadolescent children still feel confident about their relationship with their parents even after they find they are not as good as they once thought in other areas. He also predicted that the extremely high self-concepts on the Parent scale were unlikely to be maintained through the adolescent years.

Sex Effects In Self-concept.

Wylie (1979), in her comprehensive review empha_:z ng American research conducted prior to 1977, concluded that there was no evidence for sex differences in overall self-concept at any age level. suggested that differences in specific components of self-concept may be lost when items are summed to obtain a total score. Several Australian studies have found significant sek differences, but these differences may depend upon age; the component of self-concept; and the self-concept instrument (see Marsh & Smith, 1982). Australian research with the SDO has shown large sex differences in self-concepts of Physical abilities (favoring boys) and Reading (favoring girls); and smaller differences in other areas as well (Marsh, Relich & Smith; 1983; Marsh, et al., Note 1). However, consistent with Wylie's conclusion; there was little or no sex effect in the sum of responses to all the SDO items. Marsh et al. (Note 1) also demonstrated that While there were age and/or sex effects in each of the SDO scales, there were no sex-by-age interactions for students in grades 2 - 5. Retation to Academic Ability.

Self-concept theorists 7e.g., Shavelson & Bolus, 1982; Marsh & Pārker; in press) argue that academic ability measures should be more highly correlated with academic self-concept than with general self-concept. In the most extensive review of this relationship; Hansford & Hättie (1982) found that measures of ability correlated with general self-concept about 12; but correlated 14 with measures of academic self-concept. Similarly, Bachman (1970) reported that IO correlated 0.46 with academic self-concept, but only .14 with general self-esteem.

Marsh (e.g., Marsh, Smith, Butler & Barnes, in press) extended this reasoning and argued that academic abilities in particular areas should be most highly correlated with self-concept in the same area, less highly correlated with self-concept in other academic areas, and least 'ighly correlated with self-concepts in nonacademic areas. As an example, Marsh, Relich & Smith (1983) showed that mathematics achievement was substantially correlated with Mathematics self-concept



(155); less correlated with self-concepts in other academic areas (Reading .21, and School .43), and uncorrelated with self-concepts in four nonacademic areas. According to this logic, the construct validation of self-concept requires that facets be substantially correlated with other variables to which they are theoretically related, but also that they be less correlated with other variables to which they are not theoretically related.

The hierarchical ordering among academic self-concepts in the Shavelson model is similar to hierarchical models of academic abilities. This assumption is also consistent with the Marsh proposal that the self-concept/ability relationship is specific to particular areas of self-concept. However, numerous studies with both the SDO and the SDQ III have demonstrated that self-concepts in mathematics and verbal areas are nearly uncorrelated; even though measures of mathematical and verbal achievement are substantially correlated with each other and to the corresponding self-concepts (e.g.; Marsh & O'Niell; in press). In a recent review of the hierarchical ordering among self-concept facets, and an empirical analysis of responses from the SiQ, Shavelson proposed a modification of his model to account for this separation in the two areas of academic self-concept (Marsh & Shavelson, Note 4) According to this revised model; the SDQ scales form three second-order factors representing nonacademic, academic/verbal, and academic/mathematical self-concepts (also see Marsh & Hocevar; Note 2). These findings clearly demonstrate that the self-concept/academic ability relationship cannot be understood if the multidimensionality of self-concept and academic ability is ignored. The Present Stuly:

The purpose of the present investigation is to present results from a new self-concept instrument, the SDO II, developed specifically for high-school aged adolescents. The SDO II is based upon the Shavelson model and previous research with both the SDO and the SDO III. The SDO II was administered to student, in grades 7 - 12 for whom measures of age, sex, and achievement scores in verbal and mathematical areas were available. Different analyses examined the factor structure proposed to underlie the SDO II, and determined the relationships between the II scales and measures of age, sex and academic ability.

METHOD.

Sample and Procedures.

The total sample for this study consisted of the 901 (53%



females) students attending a coeducational; public high school in Wollongong, a city on the southern edge of metropolitan Sydney, Australia: Areas serviced by this high school represent a wide range of social economic classes; but most are classified as working and middle class. Grade levels in this school, as in most high schools in this state; range from year 2 (mostly 12 year olds) to year 12 (mostly 17 year olds). Typically; in this state; students complete schooling through year 10 which is the normal "leaving age" at which time a School Certificate is awarded. A small percentage of students, who generally have aspirations for higher education; continue on to years 11 and 12. Years 11 and 12 are designed to be a two year program where the curriculum is primarily academic in nature and oriented towards preparation for the Higher School Certificate examinations which are taken in year 12. Since this school had so few students in years 11 (48) and 12 (24), and these years are similar in nature, they are considered to be one grade in this study. Demographic information for students in each grade level; and across the total sample is shown in Table 1.

Insert Table 1 About Here

The Self Description Questionnaire II (SDQ II) was administered by one of the authors of the study, who serves as the school counselor for this high school. It was administered to intact classes during a regularly scheduled class period midway through the academic year. Standardized instructions were read about to students and any questions were answered before students completed the questionnaire. Other measures described below were obtained by the school counselor from each student's school record.

<u>Materials.</u>

The SDO II. The SDO II is a multidimensional self-concept instrument for which students respond to statements; approximately half of which are negatively worded; on a response scale which varies between "I -- False" and "6 -- True". The II scales that SDO II is designed to measure are based upon the Shavelson's multifaceted model of self-concept and research with the SDO and the SDO III. These scales differ from those measured by the SDO in that the Peer Relations scale in the SDO has been divided into Same Sex and Opposite Sex scales; and that scales measuring self-concepts of Emotional Stability and Honesty have been added. The SDO II scales differ from the SDO III in that the scales for Religion/Spirituality and Problem



Self-concept &

Solving/Creativity from the SDQ III are not represented on the SDQ II.

The actual items on the SDQ II were largely adapted from these other two questionnaires. A brief description of the SDQ II scales and example items are as follows:

- General_Self.(GENL) -- a scale based upon the Rosenberg (1965) self-esteem scale and the modification by Bachman (1970). Example_items_are:_"I_can't_do anything right";..."Overall; I have a lot to be proud of"; and "Overall; most things I do turn out well."
- Mathematics (MATH) == student perceptions of their mathematical skills/easoning ability, and their enjoyment/interest_in_mathematics. Example items are "I get good marks in_mathematics"; "Mathematics is one of my best subjects", and "I hate mathematics."
- Verbal (VERB) -- student perceptions of their verbal skills/reasoning ability and their enjoyment/interest in verbal activities: _Example items_are: "I get good marks in English"; "I hate reading"; and "I do badly on tests that need a lot of reading ability".
- School (SCHL) -- student perceptions of their ability and enjoyment/interest in school in general. Example items are: "I'm good_at most school subjects", "I'm too stupid at school to get into_a_university"; "I'm not very interested in any school subjects".
- Physical Abilities (PHYS) -- student perceptions of their skills and interest in sports and physical activities.

 Example Items are: "I'm good at things like sport, gym and dance"; "I am lazy when it comes to sports and hard physical exercise"; and "I enjoy things like sports, gym and dance."
- Physical Appearance (APPR) stident perceptions of their physical a tractiveness. Example items are: "I am good looking", "I have a nice looking face". and "I hate the way I look."
- Relations with same Sex_(Ssex) and Opposite Sex (Osex). Peers these two scales measure student perceptions of their interactions with peers. Within each scale, some items... specifically refer to same and opposite sex like "I enjoy spending time with friends of the same sex" and "When I'm alone with members of the opposite sex I feel shy & unsure of myself.". Other items refers to boys and girls, and are scored according to the sex of the respondent such as "Boys often make functions and "I do not get along well with girls."
- Relations With Parents. (PRNT) -- student perceptions of their interactions with their parents. Example items are: "My parents treat me fairly"; "I get along well with my parents" and "It is difficult for me to talk to my parents:"
- Honesty (HONS) -- student perceptions of their honesty and trustworthiness. Example items are: "I am honest", "Cheating on a test is ok if I don't get caught", and "People can count on me to do the right thing."
- Emotional Stability (EMOT) -- student perceptions of their emotional stability. Example items are: "I am often depressed and down in the dumps", "I am a ner/ous person", "I get upset easily."

Academic Criterion Measures: A variety of academic criterion measures were obtained for each student from the school records: A brief summary of each of these is as follows:

10 -- All students in this school district are administered a standardized_intelligence.test_(Test of Learning Ability,... ACER; 1976)_during_year six__In_a_few_instances; for children transferring from other school districts; the_test_might_bave been administered after the_start of year seven; or scores from a test judged to be comparable from another school district might be used. The frequency with which this



occurred could not be determined since only the actual IQ score was recorded in the school records.

Reading Ability (Read) -- Students; upon entering the high school; are given the Gapadol (McLeod, 1972), a standardized reading test. Since, this procedure was only instituted recently, these scores are available for only year 7 and 8 students.

Math and English Stream scores (Math & Engl) -- In year 7, the first year of high school; students are classified into ability groupings based upon their IQ score. For this first year only; students are assigned to the same stream in all subjects. In subsequent years students are assigned to separate streams in math and English depending upon their performance in each particular subject. The number of streams varies from year to year (see Table 1) as a function of the number of students and staffing availability. For purposes of this study; the math and English ability streams were taken as measures of academic performance. Students assigned to the highest ability level were given a score of one, those assigned to the next highest ability level a score of 2; and so forth.

Statistical Analysis.

There were almost no missing responses to any of the SDG II items (less than 174 of 1%), and the mean response was substituted for the few missing values which did occur. Since student demographic data were obtained from the school records, there were also relatively few missing values for these variables. There were, however, 50 (6%) of the students who had no ID score on file, these instances being godistributed across the different grade levels (see Table 1).

Correlational analyses which were based upon this measure used "pairwise" deletion for missing data (see Nie, et al., 1975): However, correlations based upon only those cases with no missing scores were nearly identical.

The standardized IQ scores comprised the only academic ability measure on which students from different grade levels could be compared. An ANOVA showed that the grade levels differed in terms of average IQ (see Table 1). However, a Neuman-Rusis test of the pair—wise differences indicated that this difference was due to higher IQ's in years 11 and 12. None of the differences among the other years reached statistical significance at p < .05, nor did the difference between IQ's in years 11 and 12. This is consistent with the self-selection which takes place after year 10; and supports the decision to combine students from years 11 and 12 into a single group. However, it also indicates the need for caution in interpreting age effects beyond year 10 since the students in grade level 11/12 are clearly not comparable with the rest of the sample.

This study is the first application of the SDO VI, so more items were included than were intended to be used. Preliminary analyses, based upon 153 items, were used to select items to be included in the final analysis. Selection of items for each scale was based upon item



analysis statistics; retaining at least 10 items for each scale; and maintaining an approximate balance between the number of positively and negatively worded items in each scale. On the basis of these criteria; 122 items were selected. Coefficient alphas were computed for each scale for the total sample and separately for each grade level, using the commercially available SPSS program (Hull & Nie, 1981). The findings from this analysis are presented in Table 2 of the Results section.

Prior to any analyses, responses to negatively worded items were reflected so that a high score represented a high self-concept on all Items from each scale were then paired and factor analyses were performed on the total score for each item pair. Thus, the first two items in each scale we , summed to form the first Item pair, responses to the next two items were summed to form the second item pair; and so forth; forming 61 item-pairs from the 122 items. This procedure of pairing items responses is typically used in factor analyses of responses to the SDO and the SDO III. Limitations in the factor analysis procedure (i.e., the SPSS procedure is limited to 100 variables) and cost considerations necessitated this decision. Nevertheless; further advantages result from the use of item pairs (see Marsh, et al., Note 1). In particular, each variable is more reliable, has less unique variance, and is less likely to be affected By the idiosyncratic wording of a particular item when the analysis is performed on responses to item pairs. The SPSS procedure was also used to create factor scores to represent each scale (see Nie, et al., 1978). A confirmatory factor analysis of the responses to the SDQ II was then performed with the commercially available LISREL V program (Joreskog & Sorbom, 1981).

A preliminary MANOVA was used to determine the effects of age and grade level on the SDQ II scales. Based upon this analysis; separate ANOVAs were performed on each of the SDQ II scales, and a polynomial breakdown was used to partition the effect of grade level into linear, quadratic and cubic components. These analyses were performed with the commercially available SPSS program (Hull & Nie; 1981).

In the final analyses, the relationships between the SDQ II scales and academic criterion scores (IQ, Reading skills, Math and English stream scores) were determined. Since the available criterion scores (except IQ); and the meaning of ability streams, varied for different grade levels, this analysis was performed separately for each grade level.



RESULTS

Reliability & Factor Analyses.

Reliability. It was hoped to be able to select a subset of items such that each SDQ II scale would have a coefficient alpha of at least 0.80. This was accomplished with all but the Emotional Stability scale (see Table 2) where the alpha was only 0.78; For the total sample, alphas for the 11 SDQ II scales varied between 0.28 and 0.70 (median alpha = 0.86).

Insert Table 2 About Here

Cuefficient alphas were also computed separately for each grade level (see Table 2). Despite the relative homogeneity of students in the year 11/12 sample, the coefficient alphas tended to be slightly higher (median alpha = 0.89) for this group. Coefficient alphas in the other grade levels were similar to each other (median alphas =0.84, 0.86, 0.87, and 0.85 for years ? - 10 respectively). The size of the alphas is one indication of the appropriateness of the SDQ II for each of the year levels considered in this study.

Conventional Factor Analysis. Results of the conventional/exploratory factor analysis (see Table 3) clearly identify the 11 scales the SDO II was designed to measure. For nearly all of the 61 item pairs, factor loadings are high on the scale each was designed to measure (target loadings); and low on other scales (nontarget loadings). No target loading is less than 0.20 and 94% are greater than 0.4. None of the nontarget loadings is greater than 0.4 and 98% are less than 0.2. Thus, the pattern of factor loadings provides clear support for the scales which the SDO II was designed to measure.

Insert Table 3 About Here

correlations among the oblique factors (see Table 3) tend to be small; varying between -.06 and +.35. The highest correlations occur between the General Self and other scales (median r = 0.20), between the School scale and the other two academic scales (0.33 t 0.30); and between the Physical Appearance and Opposite Sex scales (r =0.33). As part of this factor analysis, factor scores were computed (see Nie, et al., 1975) and these were used in subsequent analyses. The pattern of correlations among these factor scores is similar to that shown in Table 3; though the magnitude is somewhat higher (median r = 0.17 vs. 0.13). The lifactor scores were correlated with scale s presidetermined by simply summing the unweighted responses of items





designed to measure each scale. The correlations between the factor scores and the matching scale scores were extremely high (median r = 0.97) and further demonstrate the clarity of the factor structure. The il factor scores were also correlated with each other separately for each grade level and the median correlations were 0.12; 0.17; 0.18; 0.17; and 0.17 for years 7 through 11/12. Thus, there is no evidence that adolescent self-concepts become more distinct (i.e., less correlated) with age, as suggested in the Shavelson model.

Confirmatory Factor Analysis (CFA). In CFA; models are specified by fixing or constraining elements in three matrices which are conceptually similar to matrices resulting from conventional factor analyses. These are:

- 1) LAMBDA Y; a matrix of factor loadings;
- 2) PSI, a matrix of correlations among factors;
- 3) THETA, a diagonal matrix of error/uniqueness_terms.... which are conceptually_similar to one minus the communality estimates in common factor analysis.

A full discussion of CFA is beyond the scope of this paper (see Jorskog & Sorbom, 1981; Jackson & Borgotta, 1981; Marsh & Hocevar, Note 2). However, the pattern of parameters can be seen by examining the results in Table 4. All coefficients of "1" or "0" are fixed (i.e., predetermined in a manner which defines the model) and not estimated as part of the analysis, while all other parameters are free to be estimated. For this problem 61 measured variables are used to define 11 factors. The free parameters are the 61 factor loadings in CAMBDA; the 55 correlations in PSI, and the 61 error/uniquenesses in THETA. This model is very restrictive in that each measured variable is allowed to load on one and only one factor, and represents an ideal of "simple structure."

Insert Table 4 About Here.

The LISREL V program, after testing for identification, attempts to minimize a maximum likelihood function which is based upon differences between the original and reproduced correlation mathix; and provides an overall chi-square goodness-of-fit test (Joreskog & Sorbom, 1981; Maruyama & McGarvey, 1980). However, for large, complex problems based upon large sample sizes; this value will nearly always be statistically significant, and alternative indications of goodness-of-fit are employed. The most commonly employed alternative is the ratio of the chi-square to the degrees of freedom (df): However, this value is still directly related to the sample size such that the same



solution will result in a larger ratio when based upon a larger sample size. Other alternatives have been developed which are not a function of the sample size. LISREL V computes the root mean square residual (RMS) which is based upon the residual covariances — the differences between the original and reproduced correlation matrix in this example. Bentler & Bonnett (1980) describe coefficient d which scales the observed chi-square along a scale which varies from zero to 1.0. The zero-point represents the chi-square obtained from a null model and the 1.0 represents a perfect fit. Thus, the index is like an estimate of the variance explained or a reliability coefficient.

The parameter estimates (see Table 4) indicate that each of the SDQ if factors is well defined in that every factor loading is large and statistically significant. Despite the large sample size; the chi-square/df ratio (2.79) is small. The values of coefficient d (.84) and RMS (.048) are also indicative of a good fit. Hence, even this restrictive model provides a good fit to the data.

Sex and Age Effects:

In a preliminary analysis, a MANOVA was performed across all II scales to determine the effects of sex and age. Across the II scales, the sex-by-age interaction was not statistically significant; nor did it depend upon the particular area of self-concept. However, the effect of sex and the effect of age each varied with the particular scale. Consequently, separate ANOVAS were conducted to determine the effect of sex and age on each of the SDQ II scales (see Table 5). As in the overall analysis, the sex-by-age interaction failed to reach statistical significance in any of these separate ANOVAS.

Insert Table 5 About Here

Sex differences are statistically significant for 8 of the 11 scales (see Table 5), but the magnitude and direction of the effect varies with the particular scale: For five of the scales; self-concepts are higher for boys than girls (General-Self, Math, Physical Ability, Physical Appearance, and Emotional Stability), while for three other scales the direction is reversed (Verbal; Same Sex and Honesty). For the sum of the three academic scales (Total Academic) and the sum of all 11 scales (Total Self), the effect of sex is not statistically significant. Because of the large sample size, even small effects are statistically significant. Inspection of Table 5 indicates that sex differences account no more than 9% of the variance in any of the scales.

Age effects are statistically significant for all but the



Emotional Stability factor 'see Table 5). In order to further examine the nature of this relationship, the age effects were partitioned into linear, quadratic and cubic components. Only for the two peer relationship scales are the age effects primarily linear with, particularly for the Opposite Sex scale, self-concepts showing an increase with age. The linear effects were also significant for the Physical Appearance; Parents and Homesty scales; though the quadratic component was significant and larger for each of these. Hence, the linear component indicated that self-concepts declined with age for the Parents scale; but improved for the Honesty and Physical Appearance scales. However, for these three scales, as well as five others, there was a significant quadratic component. In each instance where there was a significant quadratic effect, self-concepts were highest in grades 7; 11 and 12; and nearly always lowest in year 9. The nature of this quadratic trend was also clearly evident in the Total Academic and Total Self scores. It is important to note the the low-point in self-concepts occurs in year 9; and that it starts to improve in year 10. Consequently, the unrepresentative sample of students in the year 11/12 sample is not the cause of this nonlinear trend. The magnitude of the age effects accounts no more than 5.6% of the variance in any of the scales.

Correlations With Academic Criteria.

It was necessary to examine the relationship between the academic criteria and self-concept scales separately for each grade level; since the criteria and their interpretation varied for the different grade levels. Nevertheless, some generalizations can be made across the grade levels. At all five grade levels, each of the academic self-concepts and their total are significantly correlated with the academic criterion measures (see Table 6). These 20 multiple R's range from 0:20 to 0:55 (median multiple R = 0:38). Of the 40 Multiple R's (median = 0:18) relating the academic criterion to nonacademic scales, only eight reach statistical significance and none is larger than 0:3. This pattern of findings shows the specificity of the self-concept ratings in that academic criterion are primarily related to academic self-concepts and not to the nonacademic areas of self-concept.

Insert Tables & & 7 About Here

There is also strong evidence for the specificity of self-concept within the different academic areas. While the School scale is moderately correlated with both the Math and the Verbal scales, the

Math and Verbal scales are not significantly correlated to each other in the total sample or at any grade level. In grades 2 and 8, the only two grades where a standardi: 'reading score was available, reading achievement is significantly correlated with the Verbal scales (r's = 0.34 & 0.21 , p < .01) but not with the Math scales (r's = 0.12 & 0.06). Similarly, for grades where math and English classes were streamed separately, the math score is most highly correlated with Math self-concept and the English score is most correlated with Verbal self-concept.

Math criteria are more highly correlated with Math self-concepts than Verbal self-concepts, while Verbal criteria are more highly correlated with the Verbal self-concepts. However, this degree of specificity is several limited by the extent of colinearity between the verbal and math criterion scores. The correlation between the math and English stream scores is 1.0 in grade 7 (where subjects are not streamed separately), 0.95, 0.89, and 0.89 in grades 2 - 10, and 0.47 in the year 11/12 group:

In order to further examine this specificity; a new set of multiple regressions was performed correlating the two academic stream scores with each of the academic self-concepts in years 8 - 11/12 (see Table 7): The multiple R's are each statistically significant; and nearly as large as those in Table 6 (where multiple regressions include the IQ score). In Table 7 the standardized beta weights for each of the stream scores are shown instead of the first-order correlations as in Table 6. For Math self-concepts in every grade level the direction of the math stream score is significant and positive, while the direction of the English stream score is significant and <u>negative.</u> Paradoxically, once the effect of math achievement is controlled for, having a higher English achievement actually leads to a lower self-concept in math. Conversely, for Verbal self-concepts; the dimection of the English stream score is positive; while the direction of the math stream score in negative. For the School and total academic scores, there is no instance when both the math and English stream scores add significantly to the multiple R; let alone have beta weights that are significant and in the opposite direction. The extent of the specificity of this selfconcept/academic ability relationship is quite remarkable, given the large correlations between the English and math stream scores; findings also demonstrate the clear separation between Verbal and Math self-concepts, even when the abilities in these two areas are



substantially correlated.

DISCUSSION

The SDQ II is designed to measure II areas of self-concept; and each of these areas is clearly identified in conventional and confirmatory factor analyses. All of the scales are re!.able and correlations among the scales are small, demonstrating the distinctiveness of the different areas of self-concept. The effects of age and sex, though independent of each other, each varied with the particular area of self-concept which was considered. While sex and/or age was significantly related to each of the SDO II dimensions; the effects were not large and none accounted for more than 9% of the variance in any dimension. The total Self score, the sum of responses to all the SDQ II items; was not significantly correlated with sex; The effect of age on the total score; and most of the individual scales, was primarily nonlinear with self-concepts being most positive in years 7; 11 and 12; and lowest in year 9; Only with the two peer relationship scales, where self-concepts generally improved with age; was the age effect primarily linear.

The set of academic criterion measures was significantly correlated with each of the academic self-concepts for all grade levels, while correlations with the nonacademic self-concepts were generally not significant. The Math and Verbal scales were nearly uncorrelated with each other, though each was substantially correlated with the School scale. While verbal and math achievement scores were substantially correlated with each other, math stream score was more highly correlated with Math self-concept than with Verbal self-concept; and the English stream score was more highly correlated with Wath self-concept.

These findings have important implications for a number of theoretical issues in self-concept research. The clarity of the factor structure support both the construct validity of responses to the SDO II and the Shavelson model upon which it was based. While the pattern of correlations among the SDO II factors suggests that some higher-order factors may exist; the size of the correlations argues against any strong hierarchical ordering of the SDO II dimensions.

While comparisons among the different SDO instruments are difficult to make; correlations among the SDO II scales seem to be smaller than those for the SDO (the preadolescent form) and larger than those for the SDO III (the university-age form). Nevertheless, there is no indication that the magnitude the of correlations among



the SDQ II scales varies over the age range considered in this study. Thus, while adolescent self-concepts seem to be more differentiated than those of preadolescents, they do not appear to become more differentiated during adolescent years.

Wylie (1979) argued that there was no convincing support for either sex or age effects in total self-concept. The sex differences found here agree with that conclusion for the total self score, but also show that there are sex differences in specific scales, some favoring boys and some favoring girls, which cancel each other out when the scores are summed across all scales. These conclusions are similar to those based upon responses to the SDQ by preadolescent children. The age effects reported here do not support Wylie's conclusion even for the total score. In the total score and most of the individual scales, there is a significant nonlinear age trend. However, many of the studies in Wylie's review only looked for linear effects. Our results suggest that the <u>linear</u> relationship could be nonsignificant, positive or negative, depending upon the particular age range which was examined.

Marsh et al. (note 1) examined sex and age effects in grades 2 - 5 with the SDO. Though not strictly comparable, it is interesting to contrast the findings from the two studies. In both studies the effects of sex and age were statistically independent in that there was no sex-by-grade interaction. In neither study did the effects of age or sex account for more than 10% of the variance in any of the self-concept scales. During preadolescent years, the effect of age was primarily linear with self-concept declining with age. Here however, the level of self-concept appears to reach its lowest point with year 9 students and to rise in year 10 and the year 11/12 samples.

No sex differences occurred for the sum of responses to all items in either the preadolescent or adolescent samples, though sex effects for particular scales differed somewhat in the two studies.

Preadolescent girls had higher self-concepts than boys in the Reading; School and Total academic scales and did not differ in the Math scale. Adolescent girls still have higher Verbal self-concept scores but do not differ from boys in the School and Total academic scales, and were significantly lower in the Math scale. Thus, relative to boys, girls self-concepts in academic areas (except perhaps Verbal self-concept) seem to have declined.

For preadolescents the only nonacademic area to have a large sex



effect was Physical Abilities, where boys had higher self-concepts. That difference, while still statistically significant, was small for adolescents. Perhaps this can be explained by differences in the wording of the items. The scale on the SDQ II was specifically designed to include references to physical activities that were appropriate to girls as well as boys. On the SDQ, for example, children indicated whether they were good at sports and games, while on the SDQ II a similar item asked if they were good at things like sports, gym and dance. Also, it may be that preadolescent girls compare their physical abilities with boys in forming their Physical Ability self-concept, while adolescent girls compare themselves only with other girls.

For adolescents, the largest sex effects occurred with the Physical Appearance and Same Sex scales; whereas Physical Appearance was not significant for preadolescents and the Peer Relations scale which showed no difference was not broken into same and opposite Sex on the SDQ. Thus, relative to boys, girls may have improved their self-oncepts about relations with same-sexed peers but declined in terms of their self-concepts of Physical Appearance.

While the sex differences are independent of age within the preadolescent years and within the adolescent years there may differences in the sex effects between the two age groups. The most striking appear to be shifts in the academic scales, the Same Sex scale, the Physical Appearance scale, and perhaps the Physical Ability scale. The shift in Math self-concept is consistent with other research (cf., Meece, et al., 1982) which finds that while girls and boys have similar math self-concepts during primary school years, girls have lower self-toncepts in junior and senior high school years. Further research, based upon both longitudinal and cross-sectional comparisions, is needed to clarify this apparent sex-by-age interaction.

The relationship between self-concept and academic achievement clearly depends upon the area of self-concept which is considered. The distinctiveness of the pattern of relationships shown here not only argues for the clear separation between academic and nonacademic self-concept, but also for the separation of academic self-concepts in verbal and mathematical areas. These findings replicate findings obtained with both the SDQ and the SDQ III, and also support Shavelson's revision of his hierarchical model (Marsh & Shavelson, Note 4).



It is important to understand why Verbal and Math self-concepts are nearly uncorrelated even though actual abilities in these areas are highly correlated. We propose that this extreme separation is due to a within set frame of reference effect. According to this proposal, students compare their own relative abilities in different academic areas; as well as comparing these abilities with those of other students. Consider, for example the student who is below average in both verbal and math skills, but is better at math than English. För this student, his math skills are below average relative to other students (an external comparison) but higher than average relative to his other academic skills (an internal comparison). Depending upon how these two components are weighted; the student may have an average or even above-average self-concept in math. The external comparison process will lead to a positive correlation between Verbal and Math self-concepts, the internal comparison process will lead to a negative correlation; and the joint operation of both will produce relatively uncorrelated self-concepts which are consistent with empirical findings. This model is also consistent with the reversal of signs in beta weights observed in Table 7. According to this proposal a high self-concept in math will be more likely when math skills are good (the external comparison) and when the math skills are much better than verbal skills (the internal comparison). Thus, once the effect of math skills is controlled for; it is the difference between math and orbal skills which contributes to the prediction of math st f-concept. Hence, the sign of the beta weight for verbal skills should be negative. The ability of this model to account for these seemingly paradoxical results makes it quite appealing, though it needs further investigation.

Another sort of frame-of-reference effect; described by Marsh (Marsh & Parker; in press; Marsh; in press) is likely to limit the size of correlations between academic ability and academic self-concepts in this study. According to this model, students appraise their own academic ability; compare this with the observed abilities of other children in their frame of reference, and use this relativistic impression of their ability as one basis for forming their academic self-concept. Thus, a given child will see him/herself to be relatively more able in a low-ability school and will form a more favorable self-concept than if the same child attends a high-ability school. The model was strongly supported in a study based upon preadolescent self-concepts for sixth grade students in high and



low-ability schools which were not selective on other than the basis of geographic locales. There; the basis of comparison -- other students in the same school who live in the same geographic area -- is clear. To the extent that these findings generalise to the present study; a student near the top of one stream might be expected to have a higher academic self-concept than if the same student were near the bottom of the next more able stream. However, the frame of reference actually used by students (i.e.; the school; other students in their stream, etc.) and the additional effect of being "labeled" according to stream, make the application of this model difficult. Unfortinately; this model cannot be tested in this study. Since students are streamed according to ability, there is virtually no overlap in abilities in the different streams, and we have no measure of achievement by students within each of the academic streams. However, to the extent that this process does operate; it will lower academic self-concept/ability correlations.

Findings described here clearly demonstrate the multidimensionality of self-concept. The relationship between self-concept and other variables such as sex; age and academic achievement cannot be adequately understood if this multidimensionality is ignored. The failure of most research to recognize this multidimensionality stems not from the inherent nature of self-concept; but from the poor quality of measurement instruments and theoretical models which have been employed. We suspect that these two factors account for the inconsistent; contradictory; largely null pattern of relationships between self-concept and other constructs which typically results from systematic reviews of the self-concept literature (e.g.; the conclusions reached by Wylie):





Pēfērence Notes

- 1 Marsh; H. W.; Barnes; J.; Cairns. L.; & Tidman, M. <u>The Self</u>
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TABLE 2

Scale Reliabilities At Each Grade Level and For The Total Sample

JUNIE	Relibert.	icies we co	ach avade i	"eser and c	or the local	29mb 16
Scale (number	Snade 7	Grade 8	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11/12	Total
of Items)	(n=236)	(n=223)	(n=131)	(n=189)	(n= 72)	(n=201)
GENL (16)	.86	. 89	. -	.88	. 94	. 88
MATH (10)	. 83	.91	.88	.92	. 94	. <u>aŭ</u>
VERB(12)	.81	.80	.82	.84	.ē°	. 32
SCHE (10)	. - 8	: 83	.81	.84	.90	.83
PHYS (10)	. 84	.86	.87	. 85	.87	. 36
APPR(10)	ā.	.9i	• <u>ė</u> Č	.88	. Ōi	.80
SER(12)	.88	. 91	.80	ີ່ດຸບັ	. 63	. 4 5
55EX (12)	.80	0	82	; -	:08	.52
PRNT (10)	.87	. 8̄-ē	. 89	.89	.86	.8.7
HUNS (10)	.82	.86	.87	.82	.83	. 85
EMOT (10)	. 75	. 75	:80	is:	.83	.~g
Total (32) Academic	.86	, 4 6	. ä.	.ē8	្តិចិត្តិ	. 88
Tötäl /122 Self	, <u>°</u> <u>°</u> <u>°</u> _	<u>- = 4</u>	9.1	. 94	.94	, o.ī

Note: Peliability estimates are coefficient alphas computed with the commercially available SPSS procedure (Hull & Nie, 1981).



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TABLE 1
Characteristics of Each Grade Level and the Total Sample
Grade 7 Grade 8 Grade 9 Grade 10 Grade 11/12

	Grade 7	Grade 8	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11/12	Total
Sample Size	236	223	181	189	72	90I
Age Mean SD	12.3	13.4	14:4	15.3 .5	16.7	
% Females	50%	44%	41%	有节操	5~4	4-4
IO Mean SD Valid b		10017 1413 219	101.3 12.9 161	10212 111.4 180	11.9	101.6 13.4 851
Number of Ability Streams	īρ	10	10	7	<u>-</u>	





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TABLE 3

Conventional Factor Analysis Estimates For Parameters for the SDQ II

Oblique Factor Pattern Matrix After Rotation



TABLE 3 (continued)

Conventional Factor Analysis Estimates For Parameters for the SDQ II

	Correlations Among Factors													
	GENL	HATH	VERB	SCHL	PHTS	APPR	ÔSEX	SSEX	PRHT	HONS	EMOT			
Factors														
GENL	i													
MATH	ĪÛ	1												
VERB	11	32 01	1											
SCHL	35	33	20	ĺ										
PHTS	23	06	ĢŻ	1 ⇔	1 -	-								
APPR	2 0	05	ÓΦ	25	14	1-	-							
OSEY	18	-ŭ⊈	ŨŨ	11	19	22	1							
SSEX	17	-03	13	14	15	7.2	21	1 .	-					
PRNT	26 12 23	ûĕ	Ìΰ	15	ចំដ្	04	-0.5	13	Ĭ.					
HONS	12	14	ië	ΙO	ڻڍُن	18 00	-00	11	30 31	1	-			
EMOT	23	Ú.	نن	15	1.1	18	ÚΦ	16	50	1.3	Į.			

Mote: Coefficients are presented without decimal points.

Coefficients_which_appear in the boxes the factor pattern matrix are the factor loadings of each variable on the factor it was designed to measure (target loadings).



Confirmatory Factor Analysis Estimates For Parameters for the SDG II Factor Loading Matrix (LAMBDA) unique-Variables ness/ MATH VERB SCHL PHYS APPR OSEX SSEX PRNT HON EMOT GENL υ Ο Ω Ω 61* 55* 54* 49* Ö 0.0.0.0 52¥ 62¥ 0.000000000 Gen11 0000000000 0.0.0.0.0 0.000.00 000000 õ Gen12 Gen13 68<u>*</u> 68<u>*</u> 66* 0 000 0.00 Gen I 4 õ 57¥ Gen 15 Gen 16 Gen 17 0.00 ō 35* 46* õ Õ .8* 81* Ô Ö Ó 0 Ω Ü Ü õ 30* Gen 18 22+ 22+ 28+ 28+ 28+ 80* 79* 80* 24* 0.00 ÜÜ Ü Ü Ü Ö Ü 0.00000 0.0000 Mathl 0.000 Math2 Math3 Math4 000 0.00 000 Ů Ů. O Ó Õ 86* Q 655 653 673 673 673 674 674 774 774 0.00 58* 58* 47* 0.00 000 0.00 0.00 0000000 0.000.000 0.0.0 Verbl 0.000 0.0.0.0.0.0 Verb2 Verb3 Verb4 ō 000 0.0 56* 49* 71* Ō ō Ο Ο Ο ō Ver.b5 00 0 Verbő 0 Û 0.0 Ö 61* 52* 63<u>*</u> 69* 75* 0.0 0.00 Oseal 000000 0.00000 000000 000000 0.0.0.0 O(O(O))0se : 3 0se : 4 0.00 4.1* Û éé* * 56* 41* Ü Ö o O Û Osex5 61<u>*</u> 45* 45* 62<u>*</u> 36<u>*</u> 80* 0.000 Q Q Ö Physi Ō 00000 0.000 0.00 0.000 0.000 00000 Phys2 Phys3 Phys4 0.000 Ö ~4* Ö Ö Ö Û Phys5 Û Ö 82* Û Ö Û 33* 0.000.000 11.5 25.4 22.4 22.4 22.4 81* 78* 78* 77* 5 ō Ũ Ö Ō O appi: I 0.000.00 00000 0.0.0.0 0.00 Appr-2 0.000 0.000.0 0.000 0.000 0.000 Appr.3 Appr-4 80¥ ŷ نَ 36¥ Appr5 __ __**2** 37¥ ō ō Ö 0000000 90000 0.000.000 0.000.000 000000 000000 Ose 1 87* 77* 75* 87* 87* Ose:3 31* 46<u>*</u> 44* 0.0000 0.000.00 0.00000 0.000 Ose::1 0 25¥ Ose-6 41* _ ... 56¥ ō ō 0.00 Ō o o o 000000 0.000000 69¥ SEERL 0.000.000 Sse.2 55* 58* 59* 58± 67± 52± 57± 54± 0.000.00 0.000.00 0.000.00 0.0.0.0.0 0.000.00 0.00000 0.00 Sser4 Sser5 68* 74¥ 1000000 0.000.00 0.000 0.00000 46* 37* 40* 52* Ō ō 0000 0000 Pirrit1 00000 00000 Prot2 Prot3 Prot4 80* 28* 69* 72* 000 0.000 Prnl.5 Ġ Ċ õ Ö 18* 72* 76# 72<u>*</u> 72* 48¥ Ō Õ Ģ Ō Ō Ō 00000 Hons ! 00000 Ů. O 43* 49<u>*</u> 41<u>*</u> 52* Ö Ö Hūris 2 0.000 0.00 Hons 3 0.000 0.00 0.00 ÜÜ 00 Huns4 Hons 5 ō 69¥ 56* 63* 57* 63* Emul1 ė Ģ Ö Ç Ö Ö Ö 66* 00000 Ô Ô. 00000 Õ Ü Emol2 66¥ 61¥ 72¥ Eiiiū L3 000 Õ Ó 0 000 Ö Emotel Ö 48¥ Emul5



TABLE 4 (continued)
Confirmatory Factor Analysis Estimates For Parameters for the SDG II

			Cori	~elat	lons-A	Among	Facto				
	GENL	MATH	VERB	SCHL	PHYS	APPR	OSEX	SSEX	PRNT	HONS	EMOT
Factors											
GENL MATH VERB SCHL PHYS APPR OSEX PRNT	1 31* 37* 48* 447* 43* 50*	188* 198* 19* 002:38	1 · * 24* 17* 16* 34* 26*	1_ 33 - 31* 15* 30* 41*	1 35 <u>*</u> 33 * 20*	15* 22* 15*	1 44* 00	i 26.	1-		
HONS EMOT	31* 60*	27 * 20*	38* 28*	48* 38*	14* 30*	06 37 米	21* -02:	23* 40*	40 48*	22*	1

Note: Parameter values of 0 and 1 were fixed and not estimated in the analysis. The chi-square for the model is 4787 with df=1714, or a chi-square/df ratio of 2.79. The residual mean-square is 0.48. A hull model had a chi-square of 30;638 with df=1830. Thus; coefficient_d_is_0.844. These_goodness-of-fit indicators demonstrates that the proposed model describes the data well.



TABLE 5

Effects (% Variance Explained) of Age and Sex on Self-concepts

	Sēx . Effect		Age Effect Linear	Age Effect Quadratic	Age Effect Cubic
GENL	Ž.1% ₹ ₹	1.6%**	ns	0.9% **	ns -
MATH	2.2%**	1.8%**	ns	i.5% ⊼, *¯	ns.
VERB	ā 3.5% **	1.4%*	ñ⊊	⊂ 0.5% *	0.6%*
SCHL	กร	1.1%*	ns		ris
PHYS	0.6%*	1.6%**	ns .	ŭ ēx	 n s
APPR	8.9% **	1.7%**	∺ 014% * :	1.25 **	ns
OSEX	ns .	5.6%**	3.2% * _	ns	ns
SSEX	6.8% **	1.4%₹	i.ž% *	ns .	 ns
PRNT	ns	3.54**	0.9%*	1.1%**	ris
HONS	3.1% **	4.6%**	O: 유생★ 		ns
EMOT	0.7% ¥	ns	ns	n S	n 5
Total Academic	ทร	2:0%	ns	c 1.5% *	iis
Total Self	ns	3.13	0.6% *	2.6% **	 ns

^{*} p < .05; ** p < .01 *

Note: Effect sizes are defined as SSeffect/SStotal x 100%.

a - denotes sex differences where females had higher self-concepts.
 b - denotes age effects where the linear component showed an increase in self-concept with age.
 c - denotes age effects where the quadratic component indicates a "U-shaped" relationship where self-concepts first decrease with age and then increase.

TABLE 6
Correlations Between Self-concepts and Academic Criteria

Academ	cademic Self-concept Scores riterion												
Scores	GENE	MATH	VERT	SCHL	 PHYS	APPR	OSEX	SSEX	PRNT	НОИ	EMOT		Total Self
Grade 7 10 Engl Read Mult R	05 11 09 17	05 13 12 20*	28 25 34 35**	18 21 19 21*	03 10 -04 22*	03 05 -01 11	-16 -14 -20 21*	09 11 06 12	08 11 10 11	17 20 17 20*	22 23 14 23**	24 28 30 31**	19 26 17 27**
Grade 8 IQ Math Engl Read - Mult R	-04 -01 -04 -04 -04	02 18 10 06 30 8*	14 13 20 21 31**	10 16 13 05 21*	-06 02 01 -13 24*	11 11 05 04 25 *1	-02 -07 -09 -04 -16	23 24 23 16 24*)	-04 -01 -04 -12	06 14 14 12 20	23 18 19 18 23*	14 21 19 14 23*	14 19 16 11 20
Grade 9 IQ Math Engl Mült R	02 06 05 14	07 27 08 41 88	30 15 25 34 **	25 35 28 36 **	- 08 - 07 - 08	-05 -05 -05 -09	=11 =13 =12 13	18 03 03	-17 -07 -09 18	-08 08 03 20	15 -05 -03 30 8 8	38 ** 36 36	07 13 08 14
Gnade 1 IQ Math Engl Mult P	10 -03 -03 -04	18 4 <u>5</u> 26 55**	27 10 26 39 3 4	33** 31 32 33	-06 03 01 13	04 03 04 07	-04 -08 -08 10	-02 05 13 24*	06 03 12 20	07 10 15 17	14 98 95 18	41 <u>*</u> ± 41 31	16 21 24 24*
Grade I IQ Mach Engl Mult P	1/12 00 17 15 28	14 34 20 53 **	35 14 35 45 ₹ ₹	27 32 22 34*	11 00 11 18	0.7 1.0 24 25	-02 -03 -05 15	17 21 26 28	-09 05 05 05	-02 -11 -07 13	24 19 11 25	35 38 17 41**	-22 22 22 20 20

 \pm p d 105; \pm p d 101. Note: See Method section for the description of the academic criterion scores and the grade levels where each was available.



TABLE ?

Standardized-Beta Weights From the Multiple Regressions Relating Academic Self-concepts to Academic Criterion Scores

	MATH	VERB	SCHL	ACADEMIC
Grade 8 Math Engl Mult R	.86 88 71 <u>**</u> .29 **	- 58 88 • 75 88 • 27 88	.43 * 28_ .19*	.34 13 .22 **
Grade 9 Math Engl Mult R	.81 ** 62 ** .41 **	- 122# 149** 134**	44 ** -111 37 **	:38 ** -:11: :48 * *
Grade 10 Math Engl - Mult R	1.03 % 66 % .54 %	54 ** .23 ** .35 **	. 13 . 21 . 32**	.34 * .08 .41 * *
Grade 11/ Math Engl Mult R	12 55 <u>**</u> 45 <u>**</u> .53 **	32 <u>**</u> 32 <u>**</u>	. 28 * . 09_ . 33*	.38 ** .0 <u>0</u> .38**

^{*} p 4 :05; **p 4 :01



SELF DESCRIPTION QUESTIONNAIRE II

Name			Age	Bov	GIRL_
SCH00L	GRADE/ YEAR		VLEVEL	MATHEMAT STREAM/L	TICS
COUNTRY YOU WERE BORN IN	Country your Father was born in		Ço	UNTRY_YOUR THER WAS BORN IN	
THIS IS A CHANCE TO LOOK ONE WILL HAVE DIFFERENT PLEASE DO NOT TALK ABOUT	ANSWERS. BE SURE THAT	YOUR ANSWER	S SPOW HOW	YOU FEEL ABOU	T YOURSELF.
NOT SHOW THEM TO ANYONE. WHEN YOU ARE READY TO BE	GIN, PLEASE READ EACH HEY ARE READ ALOUD TO	SENTENCE AND	DECIDE YOU	R ANSWER, (Y	OU MAY READ S FOR EACH
guestion "True", "Fals sentence, one for each of Choose your answer to a DO NOT say your answer at	THE ANSWERS. THE AN	SWERS ARE WR	ITTEN AT THE	Tur ur THE	BOXES.
BEFORE YOU START THERE AS SENTENCES TO SHOW YOU HOW IN YOUR OWN TICK (ERED TWO OF T YOUR OWN ANS	
	Fra	MOSTLÝ Se false	FALSE T	ORE RUE HAN MOSTLY LSE TRUE	 TRUE _
1. I LIKE TO REA	D COMIC BOOKS				
TO READ COMIC BOO	N_THE BOX UNDER THE AN KSL. IF LI_DID NOT LE LSE" OR "MOSTLY FALSE"	KE TO READ O	THIS MEAN	S THAT I REA VERY MUCH, I	WOULD
2. ÎN GENERAL, Î	AM NEAT & TIDY.	= ==	7 -		==
(I ANSWERED "MO AM NOT REALLY MES	RE FALSE THAN TRUE" BE	CAUSE I AM	DEFINITELY	NOT VERY NEAT	BUT I
3. Î LIKE TO WAT	сн Т.V.				
MUST DECIDE IF THE	E YOU HAVE TO CHOOSE T E SENTENCE IS "TRUE" O E TO WATCH T.V. A LOT YOU HATE WATCHING T.V	R "FALSE" FO YOU WOULD AN	R YOU, OR S	OMEWHERE IN B	ETWEEN. TICK IN

IF YOU WANT TO CHANGE AN ANSWER YOU HAVE MARKED YOU SHOULD CROSS OUT THE TICK AND PUT A NEW TICK IN ANOTHER BOX ON THE SAME LINE, FOR ALL THE SENTENCES BE SURE THAT YOUR TICK IS ON THE SAME LINE AS THE SENTENCE YOU ARE ANSWERING. YOU SHOULD HAVE ONE ANSWER AND ONLY ONE ANSWER FOR EACH SENTENCE. DO NOT LEAVE OUT ANY SENTENCES, EVEN IF YOU ARE NOT SURE WHICH BOX TO TICK.

IN THE FIRST BOX. IF YOU DO NOT LIKE T.V. VERY MUCH, BUT YOU WATCH IT SOMETIMES YOU MIGHT DECIDE TO PUT A TICK IN THE BOX THAT SAYS "MOSTLY FALSE" OR THE BOX FOR

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS HOLD-UP YOUR HAND. OTHERWISE TURN OVER THE PAGE AND BEGIN.

(E) H. W. MARSH & J. BARNES, UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY, 1982

"MORE FALSE THAN TRUE".



			FALSE				FALSE TRUE
	FALSE	MOSTL'	Y THAN TRUE	THAN	MOSTL	Y TRUE	MOSTLY THAN THAN MOSTLY FÄLSE FÄLSE TRUE FÄLSE TRUE TRI
1. ENGLISH IS ONE OF MY BEST SUPJECTS.	=	==	=	=	=	=	30. I AM POPULAR WITH
2. I HATE THINGS LIKE SPORT	, <u>=</u>	=	===			==	31. I AM OFTEN DEPRESSED
3. BOYS FIND ME BORING.	=	=	=	=	=	=	32. MOST SCHOOL SUBJECTS
4. PEOPLE CAN REALLY COUNT ON ME TO DO WHAT IS RIGHT.	=	=	=	=	==	=	33. I AM GOOD LOOKING.
5. MY PARENTS UNDERSTAND ME	· ==	=		=	=	==	34. I LOOK FORWARD TO
6. WHEN I DO A JOB I DO IT	==	=	=	=		=	35, I TRY TO GET OUT OF SPORTS & PHYSICAL EDUCATION
7. I LOOK FORWARD TO MATE S-	=	=	==	==	=	=	CLASSES WHENEVER I CAN. 36. MOST BOYS WANT ME TO
3. I FIND IT DIFFICULT TO MEET GIRLS I LIKE.	==	=	=	=	=	=	37; I OFTEN TELL LIES;
9. I AM HAPPY MOST OF THE TIME.	==	==	=	=	=	=	38, MY PARENTS PUNISH ME
10: IF I WORK REALLY HARD I COULD BE ONE OF THE BEST		=	=	=	=	=	39, I HATE MYSELF
STUDENTS IN MY SCHOOL YEAR. 11. OTHER PEOPLE THINK I AM GOOD LOOKING.	=	=	=	=	=	=	40: 1. OFTEN NEED HELP IN
12. I HAVE A POOR VOCABU-	=	=	=	=	<u> </u>	=	41. MOST GIRLS TRY TO
13. I ENJOY THINGS CIKE SPORTS, GYM & DANCE	$\stackrel{\cdot}{=}$	=	=	=	=	=	42. I AM A CALM PERSON.
14: I'M UNCOMFORTABLE BEING AFFECTIONATE WITH MEMBERS OF	=	=	=	=	=	=	13. I LEARN THINGS QUICKLY
THE OPPOSITE SEX. 15. I ALWAYS TELL THE TRUTH;		=	=	<u> </u>	=	=	44: THERE ARE A LOT OF THINGS ABOUT THE WAY I LOOK
16. MY PARENTS TREAT ME	=	_	=	==	=	=	THAT I WOULD LIKE TO CHANGE, 45. I GET GOOD MARKS IN
17. SOMETIMES I THINK THAT	==	=	==	<u>-</u>	=	=	46: I AM A SLOW RUNNER; ====================================
18. I HATE MATHEMATICS:	=	=	=	=	==	==	47; I FIND IT DIFFICULT TO
19. GIRLS OFTEN MAKE FUN OF	=	=	==	=	=	==	48. HONESTY IS VERY IMPOR-
20. I USUALLY LOOK ON THE	==	=	=	=	=	=	49; IF I HAVE CHILDREN OF
21; I. AM STUPID IN	=	=	=		<u>—</u>	=	UP LIKE MY PARENTS RAISED ME. 50, OVERALL, I AM NO GOOD,
22. I HAVE A NICE LOOKING	=	==	=	==	==	=	51. MATHEMATICS IS ONE OF
23. WORK IN ENGLISH CLASSES IS EASY FOR ME.	=	=	=	==		=	NY BEST SUBJECTS. 52. PEOPLE OF THE OPPOSITE
24. I'M TERRIBLE AT EVERY	=	=	=	=	=	=	SEX THAT I LIKE DON'T LIKE
25; I AM POPULAR WITH BOYS;	=	==	=	=	_	=	AND MIXED UP. 54; I ENJOY DOING WORK IN
261-sometimes take things That belong to other people.	=	===	=	==	=	=	MOST SCHOOL SUBJECTS.
27. MY PARENTS REALLY LOVE E A LOT.	===	==	<u> </u>	==		==	55; I AM UGLY; ====================================
28; I CAN'T DO ANYTHING	_	=	<u> </u>	_			EARLIER THAN MOST OTHERS.
IGHT. 29. 1 DO BADLY IN TESTS OF	_	_		_	_	_	57. I'M GOOD AT THINGS LIKE
ATHEMAT ICS.						~~ ~~	OF THE OPPOSITE SEX.



÷	EAL CE		Y THAN		MOSTL		FALSE TRUE FALSE TRUE MOSTLY THAN THAN MOSTLY	
59. I SOMETIMES TELL LIES π STAY OUT OF TROUBLE;			TRUE	==	INUE		FALSE FALSE TRUE FALSE TRUE TRUE 88. I'M BETTER-LOOKING THAN	UE =
60; 1 GET ALONG WELL WITH M	Ý <u>—</u>	: ==	=		=	==	89. THINGS SEVERAL TIMES	=
61, OVERALL, I'M A FAILURE.	=		=	=	_	=	90, I CAN RUN A LONG WAY	=
62, I NEVER WANT TO TAKE ANOTHER MATHEMATICS COURSE.	=	=	=	=	==	=	91. MOST BOYS TRY TO AVOID	<u>=</u>
53, I DO NOT GET ALONG VERY WELL WITH GIRLS:	=	=		=	=	=	92. I SOMETIMES CHEAT.	=
64. I WORRY ABOUT A LOT OF THINGS:	=		=	=	=	=	93. MY PARENTS ARE USUALLY	=
65. I DO WELL IN TESTS IN MOST SCHOOL SUBJECTS:	=	==	=	===	=	=	WITH WHAT I DO: 94. IN GENERAL I LIKE BEING	=
66. I HATE THE WAY I LOOK.	=	=	==	=	=	=	95. I HAVE TROUBLE UNDER-	_
67. I HATE READING.	=	==	=	=	=	=	STANDING ANYTHING WITH MATHEMATICS IN IT. 96. I HAVE FEWER FRIENDS OF	-
68. I AM AWKWARD AT THINGS LIKE SPORT, GYM, &	==		=		=	=	THE SAME SEX THAN MOST PEOPLE.	=
DANCE. 69. I GET A LOT OF ATTENTION FROM MEMBERS OF THE OPPOSITE				==	=		98. PECPLE COME TO ME FOR	=
SEX. 70. CHEATING ON A TEST IS OK		==	==:	_	_	_	HELP IN MOST SCHOOL SUBJECTS.	=
IF I DO NOT GET CAUGHT: 71. I DO NOT LIKE MY PARENTS	=	=		=	=	=	99, NOBODY-THINKS THAT I'M	=
VERY MUCH. 721. AM. A. USEFUL PERSON TO HAVE AROUND.	<u>=</u>	=		=	=	=	100: LEARN THINGS GUICKLY IN ENGLISH CLASSES;	=
73. 1 GET GOOD MARKS IN MATHEMATICS.	==	==	==	=		=	101. I AM LAZY WHEN IT COMES TO SPORTS & HARD PHYSICAL EXERCISE.	=
74. I MAKE FRIENDS EASILY WITH GIRLS.	==	==		=	=	=	102; I HAVE A LOT IN COMMON	:
75. I AM A NERVOUS PERSON.			=	==		=	103: I AM HONEST:	:
76. I'M GOOD AT MOST SCHOOL SUBJECTS.			=	=	=	=	104 IT IS DIFFICULT FOR	:
77. MOST OF MY FRIENDS ARE BETTER LOOKING THAN I AM.	=	=		== :	_	=	105, I CAN DO THINGS AS	:
78. I'M HOPELESS IN ENGLISH CLASSES.	=		<u>=</u> =	_	=	=	106. I ENJOY STUDYING FOR	:
79. I'M BETTER THAN MOST OF MY FRIENDS AT THINGS LIKE	<u> </u>	== :	_	== :		=	107: GIRLS FIND ME BORING.	:
SPORTS; GYM & DANCE; 80. I'M_NOT VERY_POPULAR WITH MEMBERS OF THE OPPOSITE SEX;		<u> </u>		:			108. I GET UPSET EASILY.	:
81. WHEN I MAKE A PROMISE		_					109; I'M TOO STUPID AT SCHOOL TO GET INTO A UNI-	
I KEEP IT. 82. I HAVE A LOT OF ARGUMENTS :	== :	<u> </u>					130, I HAVE A GOOD LOOKING	
WITH MY PARENTS. 83. I DON'T HAVE MUCH TO BE	= :	:		_	= :	_	111. I HAVE TROUBLE TRY ING	
PROLID OF: 84. I HAVE ALWAYS DONE WELL :	<u> </u>			= :	= :	=	TRY TO WRITE SOMETHING. 112. I MAKE FRIENDS EASILY	
IN MATHEMATICS. 85. I HAVE A LOT IN COMMON =	_	=	== =	= =	_	=	WITH MEMBERS OF MY OWN SEX.	
WITH THE GIRLS I KNOW. 86, I OFTEN FEEL GUILTY, =		= =	<u> </u>	= =		=	VERY WELL WITH BOYS. 114. IF I REALLY TRY I CAN	
87. I'M NOT VERY INTERESTED =		= =	_ =	= =	= =	=	DO ALMOST ANYTHING I WANT TO DO: AT READING. 36	



		M			MORE TRUE THAN	MOSTI.	Ž					MOSTLY	MORE FALSE THAN	TRUE	MOSTL	· 7 -
116 11111111111111111111		FALSE F				TRUF		134. i	SPEND	A LOT OF		FALSE			TRUE	
126. (VERALL, I HAN TO BE PROUD OF.	VE A LUI	===	=		=	==	=	OWN SE	₹.	MBERS OF MY		_				
117. I AM CHEERFUL OF THINGS MOST OF T		=:	=	=	=	=	=	NEED TO	0.	MORE THAN I	==	==	=		==	==
118, I ENUOY SPENDI WITH MY FRIENDS OF	ING TIME- THE SAME	_		=	=			EASILY	WITH E		=	===	=	=		
SEX. 119, I FEEL THAT MY IS NOT VERY USEFUL.		\equiv	=		=	=	===	137. I EXPRESS 138. 0	SING MY	AD AT (SELF) EOPLÆ GET	=	==	==	==	=	==
120, I HAVE TROUBLE	E WITH	=	=	=	=	=	=	MORE U	PSET AL DO.	BOUT THINGS	=	==	===	==	==	==
121. I HAVE FEW FRI	IENDS OF	=	_			_	_			LS LIKE ME.			=	===	=	
OF THE SAME SEX AS 122. I DO BADLY ON	TESTS THAT					_	<u> </u>		S OF MY	OWN SEX.	=	=				==
NEED A LOT OF READ!		· 						YEAR I	2.	TO COMPLETE	<u> </u>	==	=	==	=	==
124. BOYS LIKE ME.	2.00	_						TO BE	GOOD AT	PORTANT TO ME THINGS LIKE ED., GYM, ETC.		<u>=</u>	=		=	==
	55.1								r's IMP	ORTANT TO ME	=	_	=		_	=
125. MOST THINGS I		= :		==	==	=	==	144, it	'S IMP	ORTANT TO ME		_	=		<u> </u>	
126, I HAVE GOOD FR ARE MEMBERS OF MY		== :		=	==	=	=	0+ _MY 0 145, iii	Win Sex 1's Imp	ORTANT TO ME	:					
127. OVERALL, MOST DO TURN OUT WELL.	THINGS I	=	=	==	==	=	=	TO BE F	OPULAR OPPOST	TE SEX.	s ==	==	==	=	==:	=
128, NOT MANY PEOPL OWN SEX LIKE ME.	E OF MY	== :		=	==	=	=		WELL IN	ORTANT TO ME MOST SCHOOL		==	=	==	=	=
129. MOST GIRLS WAY TO BE THEIR FRIEND.			=		=	==		147. 11 TO 22.	IN LE	CORTANT TO ME MATHEMATICS	=	=	=	===	===	==
150: 1 DON'T GET UP VERY EASILY.	PSET	== :	=	==	==:	=		148, 11 TO DO V	r's IMP	PORTANT TO ME				_		<u> </u>
131, NOTHING I DO E	EVER SEEMS	= = :	_	==	==	=	==	CLASSES 149, I UNIVERS	INTEND	TO GO TO	_	_				
132, BOYS OFTEN MAK OF ME.	KE FUN	=		==	=	==	=	LEAVE S	SCHOOL. T'S MOR	re important			_			
133, LIGET BAD MARK MOST SCHOOL SUBJECT	KS IN	:					=	SAME-SI	exfr	POPULAR WITH RIENDS THAN FRIENDS.						
NOW_WE_WANTYOU. TO I	DO A DIFFER	ENT TAS	SK. Be	low i	. a 114	t of I	ersonal	ity char	ractert	istics. Ple	ase us	these	chara	cteri	tics (<u> </u>
blanks. As an examp	ple conside	r the c	harac	teris	ic HA	PPY.	our ans	wer wou	ld be:					10 110€	TOUVE	any
l if it is NEVER. 2 if it is USUALL 3 If It Is SOMET: 4 if it is OCASS	LY NOT TRUE IMES BUT IN	that y	you ax VTLY T	a happ RUE_th	y. iat you			6 if 7 if.	it is	OFTEN TRUE 1 USUALLY TRUE ALWAYS OR AL	that	you are	happy			
Thus, if you feel it						je that	you an				ä "3" i	ext to	it:	3	ΡΡΥ	
İ	Ž			3			ÿ.		5	i	б			7		
NEVER-OR-ALMOST NEVER TRUE	USUALLY TRUE	NOI	INFRE	CUENTL	Y TRUE	000	TRUE	LY	OFT	<u> </u>	USUAL			WAYS T		
FIRM	NERVO	Js	_	WEA	K					PLEASUR	E-SEEK1	NG	DE	TERMIN	E D	
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BOSSY	CASUAL	_	_	EMO	TIONAL		RUE			SELF-SU	FFICIEN	т .		VELY		
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RASH	LOGICA	Ī.		SHY				SPOKEN		CLEAR-TI			IN	EFFICI	ENT	
SHOW-OFF	GRATE	UL	_	CHI	LDLIKE		WOR	RYING		SKILLED BUSINES			#Ē	LPFUL		
INTERESTING	SARCAS	TIC	_	ANX	ious		GEN	mLE.		FEELS S	UPERIOF	!	FL	ASHY		
APPRECIATIVE	FORCE	ÜL.	_	BOA	STFUL		SIC	ΙΫ́		DEVOTES TO OTHE			wi	DE INT	ERESTS	



